

## Detail



AX-15-000-0142

## Citizen Information

[Generate Control Slip](#)

Citizen/Originator: 1). Gibbs, Lois Marie - P O Box 6806, Falls Church, VA 22040

Constituent:

Committee:

Sub-Committee:

## Control Information

[View Correspondence](#)

<b>Control Number:</b>	AX-15-000-0142	<b>Alternate Number:</b>	snr
<b>Status:</b>	For Your Information	<b>Closed Date:</b>	N/A
<b>Due Date:</b>	N/A	<b># of Extensions:</b>	0
<b>Letter Date:</b>	Oct 02 2014	<b>Received Date:</b>	Oct 02 2014
<b>Addressee:</b>	AD-Administrator	<b>Addressee Org:</b>	EPA
<b>Contact Type:</b>	EML (E-Mail)	<b>Priority Code:</b>	Normal
<b>File Code:</b>	401_127_a General Correspondence Files Record copy		
<b>Signature:</b>	SNR-Signature Not Required		
<b>CC:</b>	OPA - Office of Public Affairs R7 - Region 7 -- Immediate Office		
<b>Signature Date:</b>	N/A		
<b>Primary Subject:</b>	Urgent Need For Meeting w/Administrator	<b>Secondary Subject:</b>	
<b>Instructions:</b>	For Your Information -- No action required	<b>Instruction Notes:</b>	

General Notes:

## Lead Information

Lead Author: N/A

Lead Assignments:

Assigner	Assignee	Office	Assigned	Due Date	Completed	Instructions
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No records found.

## Supporting Information

Supporting Author: N/A

Supporting Assignments:

Assigner	Assignee	Office	Assigned Date
Jacqueline Leavy	AO-IO-SO	AO-IO-SO	10/10/2014

## History

0714

40475081

6.0



Superfund

0401

Action By	Office	Date	Action
Jacqueline Leavy	OEX	10/10/2014	Forward control to AO-IO-SO

## Comments

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Commentator	Date	Comments
		No records found.

Fri Oct 03 12:28:19 EDT 2014  
Leavy.Jacqueline@epamail.epa.gov  
FW: Urgent Need For Meeting w/Administrator  
To: CMS.OEX@epamail.epa.gov

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**From:** Lois Gibbs [mailto:lgibbs@chej.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 02, 2014 7:09 PM  
**To:** McCarthy, Gina  
**Cc:** Lois Gibbs  
**Subject:** Urgent Need For Meeting w/Administrator



October 2, 2014

USEPA Headquarters  
Administrator Gina McCarthy  
William Jefferson Clinton Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.  
**Mail Code:** 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

Karl Brooks, Region 7 Administrator, responded to my request to meet with you today. I have attached his letter for your review. I find his letter and his tone to be offensive. It is because of Mr. Brooks' historical demeaning attitude toward the community and in the attached letter to me, that I again am requesting a meeting with you.

Let me just point out a few of the details I find offensive. First, Mr. Brooks suggested that when visiting the community this Saturday that, "providing accurate facts about West Lake should be a top priority." Then he invites me to speak with his "team" almost two weeks after my October 4<sup>th</sup> public meeting with the community. It doesn't sound to me like he was really interested in making sure I had the correct information and facts. His comment about our agreeing on EPA's mission makes no sense. Because we can both read and agree on what EPA says is their mission has nothing to do with this Superfund site or the Region's actions related to this site.

In 2008, 2011, and then again in 2014 there were deadlines for deciding on a remedy, yet there is still no decision. In March 2014, EPA scientists in Cincinnati stated that "if the radioactive waste is left in place and capped, a subsurface fire could crack that cap, potentially releasing radon gas, radioactive dust, and other contaminants into the air. Groundwater could also be contaminated." My understanding is that the fire is about 900 feet from the radioactive waste.

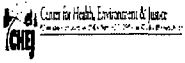
The MO Department of Health and Senior Services recently released a study that documents a significant increase in childhood cancers in the neighborhood as well as other types of cancer and they have requested assistance from ATSDR to establish an expert panel that includes representatives of state and federal agencies, academia and the public to further evaluate the health impacts of

exposures relates to the West lake site.

The mishandling of this site by your regional office has gone on too long. I am requesting that you, as Administrator of EPA, meet soon with community leaders from Just Moms STL and I to discuss how to proceed with this site.

Enough is enough.

Sincerely,



Lois Marie Gibbs, Ph.D.

Executive Director

Center for Health, Environment & Justice

(O) 703-237-2249 ext. 130 (F) 703-237-8389

Center for Health, Environment & Justice

Mentoring a Movement, Empowering people, Preventing harm

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 7

11201 Renner Boulevard  
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

OFFICE OF THE  
REGIONAL  
ADMINISTRATOR

OCT 02 2014

Lois Marie Gibbs, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Center for Health, Environment & Justice  
P.O. Box 6806  
Falls Church, VA 22040

Dear Dr. Gibbs:

Thank you for your September 25, 2014, letter to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. The administrator asked me to contact you on her behalf because Region 7 is leading this agency's complex efforts to protect the health of communities surrounding the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site.

I understand you will be visiting St. Louis this weekend and welcome you to the Heartland. Given the importance of keeping the public aware, I hope the Center for Health, Environment and Justice agrees that providing accurate facts about West Lake should be a top priority. In the interest of ensuring you have the most accurate information available, I invite you to visit with me and my Superfund team between October 14 and 17, either here in Kansas City or, if it is more convenient, by audio or video teleconference. My staff will be contacting you shortly to discuss this invitation.

While we may see this agency's West Lake work differently, we agree that EPA's mission is to protect public health from the radiological material at this Superfund Site. EPA Region 7 is leading a concurrent effort to establish a final remedy for the site while supporting the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' and Missouri Attorney General's work to protect public health from the subsurface smoldering event in the adjacent Bridgeton Landfill.

Again this week, in meetings with businesses working near the site and staff with the St. Louis-area congressional delegation, I reiterated this agency's judgment that all scientific information available to EPA indicates the site remains protective of public health. This agency continues collecting information and data needed to evaluate alternatives in accordance with the National Contingency Plan, and to select the final remedy to ensure the protection of public health into the future.

I look forward to meeting with you so that we can discuss the facts and dispel myths surrounding the site. I will share with you what EPA is doing to ensure the responsible parties take actions to protect public health into the future. I am particularly interested to hear your ideas about how we can work together moving forward to achieve a more informed and protected public.



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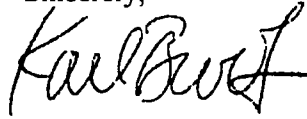
# Center for Health, Environment & Justice

P.O. Box 6806 • Falls Church, VA 22040 • Phone: 703.237.2249 • Fax: 703.237.8389 • [www.chej.org](http://www.chej.org)

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Again, thank you for your letter. If we can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me at 913-551-7006, or Lynn Slugantz at 913-551-7883.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karl Brooks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karl" and last name "Brooks" clearly distinguishable.

Karl Brooks